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John J. Kelly, Jr. Reg. No.: 29,182

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Examiner : Jason L. Savage  
Art Unit : 1794  
Docket No. : 52433/842  
Conf. No. : 9443

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : T. ISHIKAWA et al.  
Appln. No. : 10/576,224  
Filed : April 13, 2006  
For : LARGE-HEAT-INPUT BUTT WELDED JOINTS HAVING  
EXCELLENT BRITTLE FRACTURE RESISTANCE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE**

SIR:

This communication is supplemental to the Amendment having a Certificate of Mailing dated December 31, 2008 which was filed in response to the Office Action mailed October 1, 2008 in the above-identified patent application. A petition of an extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action accompanies the supplemental response.